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through the expensive, unsatisfactory and wearisome method of diplomatic intervention. We welcome the proposed court not only as providing a speedy and equitable method of adjusting one class of international disputes, but as a happy augury of a more complete system of world judicature to be established in future. We believe that the United States will honor itself by providing for appeals from its Courts to the International Prize Court, and, affirming our belief in the constitutionality of the measure, we urge the United States Senate to speedily ratify the convention without waiting for a world agreement relative to the laws concerning maritime captures, believing that the jurists who shall compose the court can be trusted to decide the law in such cases in full accord with the principles of justice and equity.

"We especially congratulate the United States delegation to The Hague upon its distinguished service in securing the recommendation of the establishment of an International Court of Arbitral Justice in the form agreed upon, 'as soon as an agreement shall have been reached upon the selection of the judges and the constitution of the court.' We call attention to the fact that the recommendation, naming no numbers of powers who must consent, leaves it open for the court to be established at The Hague as soon as three or more nations shall agree upon the method of selecting the judges. Until such a court is created to which the nations of the earth may resort with the assurance that their disputes will be judicially considered and rightly decided, resort to the law of violence will be in some cases almost certain.

"We strongly urge the United States government to take every action which it may deem expedient to secure the consent of two or more other nations to establish this great world court, believing that in this way it is now possible to render a most signal and memorable service to all mankind.

"We urge as a matter of primary importance that there shall be a general adoption of the proposal that conferences similar to this shall be held in every State of the Union, for promoting the universal acceptance of the principles of international arbitration and the establishment of permanent courts of justice for the nations as the only practical means to insure the blessings of peace, by making wars improbable and ultimately impossible in the civilized world. Such conferences will serve as the organizers and representatives of public opinion in their respective States. Their executive committees, acting together through delegates or otherwise, will exert a powerful influence in supporting the efforts of our national government, and in other ways will promote the cause of international arbitration at home and abroad.

"The president of the conference is hereby requested and empowered to appoint an executive committee of twenty-five, with power to add to and to fill vacancies in its own number. It shall be the duty of the said executive committee to act as the representative of this conference for the continuance of its work and the promotion of its objects, and for those purposes it is authorized in its discretion to confer and cooperate with other bodies or committees or individuals from any part of the United States or other countries. It is also empowered to call another meeting of this Conference, to organize

a State association for similar purposes, if it shall at any time find that such action will be advisable."

THE UNITED STATES AND JAPAN.

This supplemental resolution, offered by Rev. J. H. DeForest, D.D., of Sendai, Japan, was also adopted:

"*Resolved*, That this Pennsylvania Arbitration and Peace Conference, assembled in Philadelphia May 16 to 19, 1908, and composed of representatives of numerous organized bodies in this State, official, educational, judicial, religious, industrial, literary, hereby sends to Japan, our great neighbor across the Pacific, our expressions of warm satisfaction over the signing of the first arbitration treaty between the governments of Dai Nippon and the United States;

"That we rejoice in the most friendly invitation on the part of Japan to our navy to visit her ports, which cordial invitation, as cordially accepted by our government, will, we fully believe, make even stronger the unbroken and historic friendship, which was so auspiciously begun between our two nations by the first peaceful visit of our fleet under Commodore Perry in 1854;

"That in the solution of the greatest problem of the twentieth century — the coming together of the millions of the East and the millions of the West — Japan, by her hearty adoption of the four great principles we love, namely, representative government, universal education, religious liberty and open courts of justice, and the United States, by her more than half a century of political sympathy with Japan, are especially fitted for a moral alliance that shall unwaveringly stand for righteousness and justice, and therefore perpetual peace between the peoples of the East and those of the West."

Encouraging Events of the Past Year.

BY HON. JOHN W. FOSTER, CHAIRMAN.

Address at the opening of the Lake Mohonk Conference on International Arbitration, May 20, 1908.

The events of the past year give encouragement and hope to the attendants upon the Mohonk Arbitration Conference that their high ideal of a substitution of arbitration for war may yet become a reality; but these events also show that there is much work to be done before this ideal is realized.

Three events of the past year have greatly advanced the cause of international peace and arbitration. The first and most important of these is the second Peace Conference at The Hague, which must be regarded as in some respects the most important event in the history of the human race. It did not accomplish all that the ardent friends of peace desired, and notably so in the cause of arbitration; but a marked advance was made in that cause. The treaty on the subject made by the first Peace Conference of 1899 was amended and improved both in respect to commissions of inquiry and the court of arbitration; while a treaty for obligatory arbitration could not be agreed upon, owing to the opposition of a few powers, the vote of the Conference was unanimous in favor of the principle; and the bases for a permanent tribunal of arbitration were approved, to be put in operation as soon as the composition of the tribunal can be determined.

The second event of importance was the Peace

Conference of the Central American States held in Washington during the past winter. Various measures were agreed upon and put into the shape of treaties, tending to promote harmony and preserve the peace between the five Central American republics, which have in the past been the scene of so much strife, the most prominent and practicable of which was the establishment of an international court for these republics before which all questions between them are to be brought in the future for peaceful determination. It is the first time in the history of nations that such a permanent international tribunal has been established, and its operation will be watched with much interest. Judged from the past conduct of those states, it may encounter obstacles, but with their consent it has the moral support of the two great neighboring republics of Mexico and the United States, and under their influence we may anticipate that this international court will have a salutary effect in preserving peace in this long distracted section of the hemisphere.

The third event calling for notice is the action of the Secretary of State, Mr. Root, in negotiating arbitration treaties with eleven nations, among them some of the most powerful, including our northern and southern neighbors; and in securing for them the unanimous approval of the Senate. When we recall the disappointment experienced by the friends of arbitration three years ago because of the disagreement between the President and the Senate on this subject, our estimate of the skill, good judgment and devotion to peace of our present Secretary of State is greatly heightened. It is fortunate for us and the world that the foreign relations of our government are under the control of so able and conservative a statesman, a lover of peace and justice, possessing the confidence of the President and the country.

The laying of the corner-stone in Washington of the edifice which is to be the home of the Bureau of the twenty-one American republics is an event of no slight significance. The treaties negotiated by a number of the powers of Europe by which their territorial rights in the territories bordering on the North and the Baltic Seas are to be respected is another omen of peace. These and other subjects will be discussed by the speakers who are to address the Conference.

Before closing, I desire to make a brief reference to some of the obstacles to the attainment of universal arbitration which it must be the task of the friends of peace to overcome.

Two objects which seemed on the point of realization at The Hague, and which had the support of an overwhelming majority of the nations, failed of accomplishment for want of unanimity. Obligatory arbitration to a limited extent would have been adopted but for the determined opposition of Germany, the great military power of the world. The permanent arbitration tribunal would have been established but for the jealousy of a few of the smaller states. It should be the task of the friends of peace throughout the world to create such a public sentiment that when the next Peace Conference assembles at The Hague these two measures shall be enacted into treaties.

To those of us in the United States who believe that arbitration is a wise and practicable substitute for war, the recrudescence of the martial spirit in this country

during the past year has been a source of solicitude and some discouragement. The dispatch of our great fleet of battleships and their auxiliaries on a voyage around the world, an event in military annals heretofore unprecedented, and the senseless rumors of a coming war with Japan, have been the occasion of this awakened spirit of militarism.

Hitherto in our history our people and our statesmen have been content to have our country grow and develop in the peaceful pursuits of the industries, commerce and intelligence. We have congratulated ourselves that our continental isolation had removed us from the strife and political complications of the warlike nations of the earth, with no dangerous neighbors. We have been satisfied to have our nation stand before the world as the model republic, cultivating friendship with all peoples and cherishing no military ambitions. The record of a hundred and twenty years of peace, with less than five years of foreign war since our independence, is a record of which a nation may well be proud. But we seem to be entering upon a new career. The cry now is for a great navy equal to any other nation and an army able to repel a hostile invasion; and the representatives of the people are voting seventy per cent. of the entire revenues of the government for a war budget.

I have had some opportunity to study the spirit and policy of the nations of Europe and the East, and I am pleased to say that I see no threatening danger to our peace and safety. In my opinion there never was a time when there was less likelihood of war between us and foreign nations than to-day. It behooves the friends of peace and arbitration to raise their voice in sturdy opposition to this clamor to place our republic on a war footing commensurate with the martial nations of Europe. Our destiny in the future, as in the past, should be along the paths of peaceful industries and the intellectual and moral well-being of our people. The victories of peace are infinitely greater than those of war. The Geneva arbitration gave our country greater prestige and glory than any battle ever fought by our soldiers. In that direction lie our true greatness and glory.

The United States Should Lead in Limitation of Armaments.

BY JUSTICE DAVID J. BREWER, OF THE UNITED STATES SUPREME COURT.

Remarks on Moving the Adoption of the Platform of the Mohonk Arbitration Conference, May 22, 1908.

Mr. Smiley, Ladies and Gentlemen: I move the adoption of this report as the Platform of this Conference. It is a recognition of what has been accomplished, and what is now an existing fact. Some of us, in the discussion which we had at the committee meeting, thought that some expression would be appropriate in reference to the limitation of armaments. But we agreed finally to say nothing about that, because we want this report to go out as the unanimous expression of the views of the Conference and to introduce no disturbing question into the Platform.

This is primarily not a peace conference, but an arbitration conference, and it is arbitration which we are seeking by this Conference and successive conferences to bring about. At the same time, as Mr. Smiley has well